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from persons belonging to the missionary bodies as well as non-missionary bodies, who have been working among the masses and among the drinking classes. There is a large volume of evidence which, if any hon. Member wants to refer to, I shall be very glad to show him the files and replies received."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"Will it be placed on the table of the House?"

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"It consists of about 150 replies and it will take about 500 to 600 pages in print."

Rao Bahadur T. A. RAMALINGA CHETTIYAR:—"At least a summary of it may be placed on the table."

(No answer.)

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI:—"Is the Government also considering the policy of total prohibition as one of the means of putting down drink altogether in this country?"

(No answer.)

Liquor manufactured by Messrs. Parry & Co.

374 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Education (Excise) be pleased to state—

(1) whether it is a fact—

(a) that the water taken at Mangalore for mixing with country liquor manufactured by Messrs. Parry & Co. is from a well which gets brackish in summer on account of the river close by;

(b) that it is carried first to a tank lined with iron or steel plates which not being galvanised get constantly rusty;

(c) that it is finally mixed with liquor without being filtered;

(d) that liquor is conveyed to Mangalore in steel casks which till recently gave a reddish or muddy colour to the liquor;

(e) that the Revenue Board and other Government authorities passed such discoloured liquor as fit for drinking;

(f) that much of the liquor sold in shops in South Kanara is adulterated with camphor boiled in hot water or liquid camphor mixed in water;

(2) (a) what caused the colouring of the liquor;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to prevent such taint or poisoning; and

(3) whether any Government officers in the Excise Department have heard any complaints about it; if so, whether local inquiries have been made and with what result?

A.—The Government have no information but will inquire.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"I have been in favour of stopping the manufacture of liquor altogether. If you are going to give us liquor at all, let it be decent liquor." (Laughter.)

12 noon.

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO:—"Is the hon. Member asking a question or giving a dissertation to the House, Sir?"

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I have not finished my question, Sir. My suggestion is therefore that as this question pertains not only to my district where the liquor supplied is abominable but to the whole Presidency I shall be very much obliged if the hon. the Minister for Excise will be pleased to call for information on all the points I have raised in this question."

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I do not quite follow the hon. Member whether he considers from his experience that the liquor that is served is strong or weak. It is not clear what he means by saying decent liquor is not served out." (Laughter.)

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" It is a stinking dirty stuff, Sir." (Laughter.)

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" I am very sorry to hear my hon. Friend's experience about it. If there is any specific instance where it was so served, I should like to have it examined."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" I rise to a point of order, Sir. Is it open to the hon. Member to make an insinuation in that way?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" He has not made any insinuation."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" His reference to experience appears to be objectionable."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As I understand it, I do not think the hon. Member is wrong. He did not refer to personal experience. There was no insinuation at all."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" If I have no objection to drink European liquor there is no reason why I should feel ashamed to take country liquor. . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think there is any occasion for further remarks. Everybody here has heard what fell from the hon. the Minister for Excise. By 'experience' he only meant observation, and there is no need to make any further comment."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" May I know whether the experience of the hon. the Minister for Excise is otherwise in this respect." (Laughter and cheers.)

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Yes. If the hon. Member for the City of Madras refers to an experience different from that of the hon. Member for South Kanara, I should certainly say 'yes' to his question."

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTIYAR :—" Will the hon. Member be more clear? I was not able to catch him, Sir?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" We had better proceed with the supplementary questions proper."

Liquor manufactured by Messrs. Parry & Co.

375 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the local excise authorities in Mangalore had to reject in 1923 any casks or quantity of liquor sent by Messrs. Parry & Co., as inferior or below the required under-proof strength in the year 1923, and if so, how many casks or quantity of such liquor?

A.—The Government have no information.